

-- This Application is a Continuation-in-Part of co-pending,

a1 commonly-owned U.S. Patent 6,215,241, issued April 10, 2001, by Learn et al., and entitled "ENCAPSULATED FLAT PANEL DISPLAY COMPONENTS." --

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (Once Amended) A protected faceplate structure of a field emission display device, said protected faceplate structure comprising:

a) a faceplate of a field emission display device, said faceplate comprising phosphor containing wells disposed above one side thereof; and

b) a barrier layer disposed over said one side of said faceplate, wherein said barrier layer prevents penetration by electrons directed towards said faceplate.

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10. (Once Amended) A protected cathode substrate structure of a field emission display device, said protected cathode substrate comprising:

a) a cathode substrate of a field emission display device, said cathode substrate comprising an electron emitting structure disposed above one side thereof; and

b) a barrier layer disposed over said one side of said cathode substrate, wherein said barrier layer prevents electron bombardment by electrons originating from said electron emitting structure.

19. (Once Amended) A method for protecting a substrate structure of a field emission display device, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a substrate structure of a field emission display device; and

b) disposing a barrier layer over said substrate structure, wherein said barrier layer prevents penetration by electrons directed toward said faceplate.

33. (Once Amended) The method for protecting a substrate structure of a field emission display device as recited in Claim 19, wherein said barrier layer includes a selectively light absorbing component.

34. (Once Amended) The method for protecting a substrate structure of a field emission display device as recited in Claim 33, wherein said selectively light absorbing component is selected from the group consisting of dyes and pigments.

35. (Once Amended) The method for protecting a substrate structure of a field emission display device as recited in Claim 33, wherein each subpixel of said faceplate includes a different selectively light absorbing component.